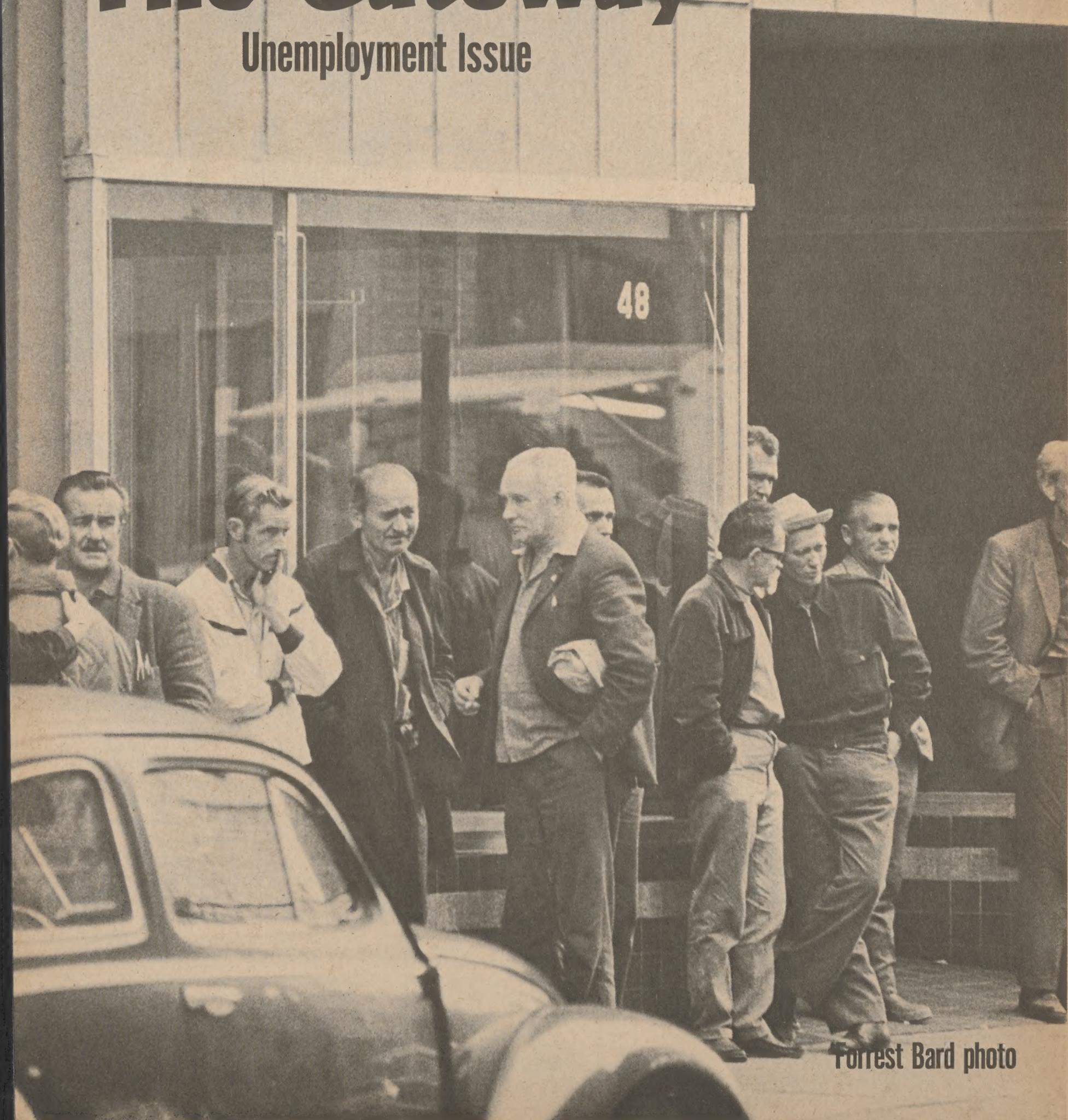


**BEULAH MISSION**

# The Gateway

Unemployment Issue



Forrest Bard photo

# Election's over — where is council?

## The old

The most important students' council meeting of the year was cancelled due to lack of a quorum.

The budget meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, March 17. The finance board had phoned all members of council the previous Sunday to inform them of the meeting. They were reminded at the regular meeting the next evening.

The meeting was scheduled for seven o'clock in the evening, but by 7:30, there were only 12 councillors present (20 voting members are required for a quorum), and the meeting was cancelled.

## Where were they?

Where were: Ian McDonnell (arts rep and external v.p.-elect), Barry McLaren (arts rep and arts rep-elect), Ron Gillman (ed rep and ed rep-elect), Rishee Thakur (arts rep and arts rep-elect of GFC), George Kuschminder (external v.p.), Anne McRae (secretary), Dave Manning (co-ordinator), Dave Ness (ag rep), Harry MacKendrick (arts rep), Lloyd Lines (dent rep), Wendy Yurchuk, John Mason, and Jurgen Kaut (ed reps), Dave Huber (engineering rep), Phyllis Kreznowski (house ec rep), Dave Van TameLEN (residence rep), Darryl Ackroyd (law rep), Paula Trout (library sci rep), Paul Bartlett (med rep), Tilly Schalkwyk (nursing rep), Ken Porter (phys ed rep), Bonny Desmond (pharmacy rep), Patricia Carr (rehab med rep), John Christensen, Jack Sturmwind, and Maria Klawe (sci reps), Dan Forrest (College St. Jean rep), Leslie Ann Carlton (WAA president), and Richard Spencer (UAB president).

## Power trips

One prominent council member commented, "Now that they're almost finished with their own personal trips, they see no reason to show up for meetings."

This meeting was extreme-

ly important, as the constitution required that the budget be passed before the change-over last Monday.

That this meeting was not held necessitated that the budget for next year be passed by the executive.

Before council change-over last Monday night (this time councillors did see fit to show up in sufficient numbers to constitute a quorum) council as a whole rubber-stamped the budget by over a two-thirds majority. Speaker Soder said that this vote gave the budget any validity it may have lacked, as a two-thirds majority of council can mandate the executive to take independent action.

## The new

By BOB BLAIR

The first meeting of the 1971-72 students' council was held Monday evening in GFC chambers.

Council speaker, Chris Soder handed the gavel over to outgoing president Tim Christian, who handed it over to incoming president Don McKenzie, who handed it back to Soder. There was some hesitation in the second phase of this as McKenzie was slow in approaching—almost as if he were afraid to approach while Christian was still holding the gavel.

The first item before the new council was the choice of a new council speaker.

## Council speaker

Secretary-elect Vera Radio announced that Personnel Board's recommendation for speaker was outgoing phys ed rep Ken Porter.

Arts rep Barry McLaren immediately asked how many of the eight Personnel Board members had made the decision. Radio answered that three members had attended the meeting.

McLaren, even less satisfied with the recommendation now that new facts had come to light, asked who the other applicants had been. Radio said that present council speaker Chris Soder and one other person had also applied.

## Temporary decision

At this point, the discussion was in such turmoil that council went into closed com-

mittee of the whole to discuss the matter.

When council re-convened, they appointed Porter to be speaker on a temporary basis. His appointment will have to be ratified in the autumn. The gavel underwent one last change of hands.

During representations before the new council, Lawrence McCallum, who had just been appointed to head the new Personnel Board, asked that Personnel Board be required to give only the name of the person they recommended for any position—not a complete list of all who had applied for the job.

## It's a big secret

In past, Personnel Board recommendations have consisted of the Personnel Board choice for a position, plus a supplement naming all others who had applied for the job.

McCallum said that the reason for this request was that he did not want to make those whom he did not choose look bad.

Objections were raised to this proposal on the grounds that without knowing who had applied, councillors' only choice would be to appoint a person recommended or to leave the position in question vacant.

## Rubber stamp

Arts rep Barry McLaren said, "If you bring in this new system . . . we have no choice but to appoint the people you recommend . . . to be a rubber stamp for the Personnel Board."

"It has that danger, yes," replied Mr. McCallum.

No action was taken on the matter.

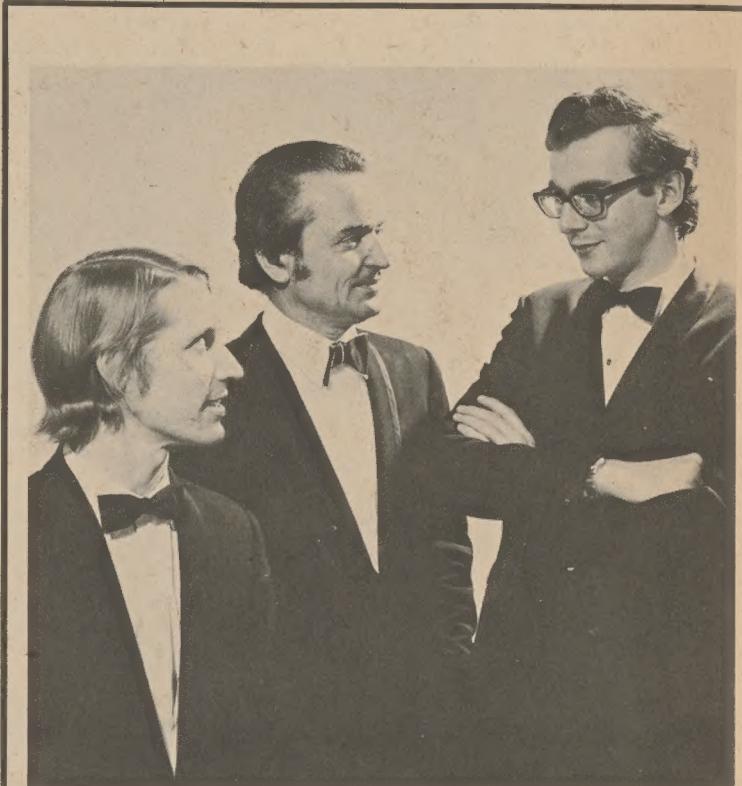
Council passed a motion allowing the Personnel Board to overspend its budget by \$400 in order to allow them to publish the "Students' Union Personnel Booklet." The booklet had already been printed with financial assistance from incoming treasurer Frans Slatter.

The new council was asked to approve a new set of standing orders. There was objection to the new standing orders from both of the non-executive carry-over members from the previous council.

Ed rep Ron Gillman and arts rep Barry McLaren objected on the grounds that the new standing orders placed adoption of the agenda be-

fore both "comments and questions from students" and "representations." This would have made it difficult to add items of business arising from these portions of the meeting to the agenda.

Mr. McLaren introduced a set of standing orders differing from the previous council's standing orders only in that it contained a special section dealing with Personnel Board recommendations.



WORRALL, DOBIAS, MASSEY

. . . fine music

## Alberta Trio great

Music. Great music, played well.

That is what the newly formed Alberta Trio will be offering to the public on Saturday, March 27 at 8:30 p.m. at the Edmonton Art Gallery.

The trio, consisting of ESO Concertmaster Charles Dobias, principal cellist Petter Worrall, and pianist Michael Massey will be presenting a concert including Beethoven's *Archduke Trio*, Brahms' *Trio in C Major*, and piano pieces by Debussy and Chopin.

There are many things that raise this above the level of an "ordinary concert," providing that such an animal exists. Most notable is that this is the debut performance of what is possibly one of the best musical groups in the province if not the country. Another is that the trio has been practicing for this one concert since the beginning of November. Yet another is that it is being held in the Art Gallery. This has been done to create a more intimate and close feeling between the performers and the audience.

Already the trio has received major accolades for its performance of the Brahms Trio on CBC radio. CBC was so impressed that they have asked the Trio back to do at least two more tapings.

When the audience assembles on Saturday, they will be gathering to hear a fine group play fine music in what will probably be an incredible performance. And with tickets priced at only \$2 for adults and \$1 for students, it is an occasion that cannot be missed by anyone who likes any kind of music, but especially by people who like chamber music.

Tickets can be purchased at the Symphony and Opera Box Offices and at the door.



—Barb Hilding photo

### HIPPIES, OLD MEN, AND WOMEN

... get the short end of the employment stick

## Students forced into debt

By BOB BEAL

Students are being forced to go increasingly deeper in debt in order to finance their post-secondary education, according to a report researched last summer by Lucien Royer for the U of A students' union.

By 1969, the number of students applying for government assistance had almost doubled since 1967. "More and more have found it necessary to put themselves in hock in order to get themselves through university. . . . Because a student is unemployed during summer periods he is forced to make large loans from provincial and federal governments."

Eighty-five per cent of students replying to a survey at U of A in 1969, said they could not continue their education with the money they saved from the summer.

### Grants and earnings

The survey showed that 58.5 per cent of students who were employed for at least part of the summer grossed under \$1,000. The less money an Albertan student is able to earn in the summer, the less money the government will give him in the form of grants. He is forced to take out more loans.

The Students' Assistance Board has not yet recognized unemployment as a valid reason for lack of finances at the beginning of the school term. If a student has not earned a stipulated amount of \$800 gross, a penalty is enforced."

A survey conducted at Collège St. Jean, an Edmonton bilingual college affiliated with the U of A, in September 1969, indicated that 44 per cent of students from low income (under \$7,000) families were unemployed during the previous summer. Only 27 per cent of students from high income (over \$7,000) families were unemployed during the summer.

Of the students from low income families who did get sum-

mer jobs, 60 per cent grossed less than \$500 and about 13 per cent earned more than \$1,000. Forty-three per cent of the students from high income families earned less than \$500 and 28 per cent made more than \$1,000.

Sixty-seven per cent of the students surveyed from low income families said they had to rely on government assistance to continue their education, compared to 32 per cent of those from high income families.

A study by the now defunct Canadian Union of Students indicated that 54 per cent of Albertans earn less than \$5,000, while only 31 per cent of the student population comes from this income bracket. Thirty-two per cent of Albertan students come from families earning more than \$8,000. This income bracket makes up 13.5 per cent of the population.

### Manpower and "pull"

More than a third of the businesses surveyed by Royer who hire students for the summer indicated as one priority in hiring the relationship of the student to present employees.

About a third of the students replying to the U of A survey who were able to get jobs, indicated they got these jobs by "pull."

Three-quarters of the students who obtained jobs by "pull" earned \$2.51 to \$3.85 per hour. Fifty-eight per cent of the students who obtained jobs through Manpower earned comparable wages.

A 1969 Manpower study indicated that 87 per cent of Alberta students actively sought summer employment and that 95 per cent of these were successful. However the Manpower survey very loosely defined "summer employed." The term was used to describe students who worked for a minimum of one day to a maximum of 16 weeks and did not take into account the wages the students were earning.

"Sixty-one per cent of the em-

ployed students surveyed by Manpower worked for 12 weeks or less.

Royer estimated that 25 per cent of Albertan students looking for summer employment registered at Manpower and that about eight per cent of these got jobs from Manpower.

In the summer of 1969, female students earned, on the average, \$500 less than males. Rural students are also forced to work for lower wages.

"All in all students who come from low income groups, those who come from rural areas and females are strongly discriminated against in the labor market."

The federal government and private companies encourage students to take jobs away from regular workers during the summer because private enterprise can pay students less than workers, according to Royer's report.

The universities do not care about the possibilities for employment for their graduates. "Universities are the only industrial institutions who are more concerned about input than output. Many faculty and department heads at most universities are encouraging students to enter their particular faculties. However, this is not done to the concern of students, but rather to enlarge the faculties as much as possible to receive the benefits and status of a large faculty. Every faculty and department should be honest enough to let students know what the job prospects are after graduation."

### Post-secondary Indians

Royer's study also pointed out that, in 1969-70, there were 43 Indians enrolled in post-secondary institutions in Alberta.

"With the current high student unemployment rate and because a very small percentage of all students working in the summer of 1969 made more than \$1,000, it becomes quite clear that students cannot finance their own education."

## Ecology Corps anyone?

By ELLEN NYGAARD

The provincial government plans to provide about 1,300 jobs for post-secondary students this summer with its barely-established "ecology corps."

The government's brain-child originated as a cross-departmental project in late February. Planning is now underway in the offices of Burn Evans of the Department of Youth, and Eric Schmidt, special assistant to the Executive Council.

The corps itself will cost \$2 million in provincial funds, employing 1,000 students. An additional 300 jobs will be available in the departments of Forestry and Provincial Parks. A \$500,000 grant will finance Forestry projects, with an additional \$300,000 allotment to provincial parks.

Another 1,000 jobs are expected to be available through regular summer hiring in government departments such as Health, Public Works, Highways, Forestry, Agriculture, and the Attorney-General's department.

The ecology corps projects "must be of a capital development nature," says Mike Jansson of the Executive Council office. Employment will be concentrated on four major development areas: provincial parks, forestry, municipalities, and trail-building.

Four new provincial parks will be established: at Bonnyville, Cardston, Sylvan Lake, and Fort McMurray. Existing parks will undergo repairs and improvements. In both cases buildings, landscaping and access roads are part of the proposed program.

Under the Department of Forestry, the corps will be building campsites, clearing underbrush in wooded areas immediately surrounding townsites, surveying and constructing airstrips and roads, and assisting in reforestation.

Municipalities may submit proposals for projects administered at the local level, using provincial funds and employing an estimated 400 student laborers. The nature of these programs is expected to be mainly landscaping and park development.

Plans are uncertain for the establishment of major wilderness hiking trails in some areas of the province.

The corps is designed to benefit students in all post-secondary programs. To qualify for employment, a student must be at least 18 years old, a resident of Alberta, and attending a post-secondary institution in the fall of 1971. Sixty per cent of the work force is expected to be male, and 40 per cent female.

Employment will encompass four full-months—May through August. Corps members will be paid \$250 per month plus room and board.

A small clerical and supervisory staff of regular provincial personnel will administer the program in Edmonton and at job locations. Some students with suitable qualifications may be hired as "group co-ordinators" at the job site.

The special projects, emphasized Mr. Jansson, are all of a "legitimately labor-intensive" nature. In other words, the philosophy is not to provide make-work solutions to the student employment problem, but to make necessary improvements which would otherwise not be accomplished.

There are still several bureaucratic hindrances to be surmounted, however, one of which is the establishment by April 1 of a special office to administer the program. The cross-departmental nature of the plan has made it necessary to slash through a jungle of normal governmental red tape.

The province's ecology corps is anything but a solution to the dismal job prospects awaiting Alberta's 41,000 post-secondary students. The provincial government itself is providing a total of only 2,300 jobs. So far, no suggestions have been forthcoming as to the fate of the other 38,000-plus students who will be flooding the labor market in May.

Desperate students should apply to "Alberta Ecology Corps," Legislative Building, Edmonton.

PAGE THREE

MONDAY, MARCH 29, 1971

## The Gateway

member of the Canadian University Press

STAFF THIS ISSUE—Heralded by people howling about summer employment and broken water pipes the following people turned out for this hopefully our last issue: Mike Daniels, Winston Gereluk, Doug Kellough, Forrest Bard, Joe Chi, Elsie Ross, Bob Beal, Bob Blair, and me Harvey G. (it's great I don't need a summer job 'cause I'm permanently unemployed) Thomgirt.

editor-in-chief ..... Judy Samoil

news editor ..... Ellen Nygaard

fine arts editor ..... Ross Harvey

sports editor ..... Bob Anderson

photo editors ..... Barry Headrick

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The views expressed by this paper are those of The Gateway staff and not necessarily those of the students' union or the University. The editor-in-chief is legally responsible for all material published herein.

The Gateway is published twice a week by the Students' Union of The University of Alberta. Final copy deadline for Tuesday edition—4 p.m. Sunday, for Thursday edition—4 p.m. Tuesday. Advertising manager Percy Wickman, 432-4241. Office phones 432-5168, 432-5178. Circulation 13,000. Circulation manager Wayne Box.

# The politics of . . .

*God, I'm miserable!*

*And, I can't tell whether it's my eye or my whole head that hurts.*

*Things are so bad around home that you wouldn't believe it. There's a plumber whistling in my basement, and he's doing it for about \$20 an hour. The whole house is a mess, and all my kids have bad colds.*

*I'm a schoolteacher. I have to work—I've got to work long enough to make enough money to pay for the rent; the utilities, the food, the mechanic, the baby, and the goddam plumber.*

*He's using me, you know. He knows that he's got me and every other workadaddy who hasn't got the time or the tools to fix his own plumbing over a barrel.*

*But that doesn't mean I hate him. He's miserable too; maybe even more miserable than I am. He probably doesn't want to wake up early every morning and work until late at night in strange people's basements, wrestling with smelly water heaters or dirty corroded pipes, or plugged up toilet bowls—then after he's finished, listen to some uptight bastard complaining about the bill. But, he's got to pay the dentist, the rent, the utilities...*

*And the same is probably true of the pharmacist who just finished charging a pile for the little bottle of medicine for my sore eye. And, she knows that I know that she's ripping me off.*

*What we're living in is a mutual 'rip-off' society—everyone knows that. And, most think that because everyone's doing it, that makes it all O.K.*

*Which brings me to the reason why I'm writing this article. You see, Stupid George down the street still thinks that the problem is unemployment. And it's not. It's employment—working in a society that has screwed up work and production in such a way that nobody can make a living by doing honest, uncompromising work. The problem is a society that allows only two choices, being an Eichmann at least part of the time—or starving.*

*Becoming a lawyer, a teacher, or a doctor doesn't provide a way out either. Because along with the really important work that your possession of a certificate or degree allows you to do—like fixing hearts, or explaining equations, or defending criminals—comes the right to charge exploitative fees, mystify law, medicine, and education; or to at least support those of your colleagues that do.*

*And, besides, who wants to fix teeth, or kidneys, or deliver babies, or teach mathematics all day? The only thing it beats is pulling plywood off a green chain, or slinging beer, etc.*

*And then, workers are placed in the ridiculous position of not even being able to sell themselves out because nobody needs them anymore. Some organize into groups and become vocal, which of course arouses the government's concern, because nothing is more threatening to the status quo than large angry groups of unemployed people.*

*Within the present system there is no hope—only misery; for the poor employed worker, the business executive or the ditchdigger; or for the desperate, destitute unemployed.*

*There never will be any hope either until all workers refuse to work; until they put aside their tools and certificates and refuse to use them to perpetuate a sick system. Then, maybe, we'll be able to work out a new way of life, one in which we will all be able to make a living in a way of which we approve.*

*Perhaps then, I'll stop writing these miserable articles.*

## Making work for students

To begin with, student unemployment does not have to be treated as an isolated phenomenon in our society. We can understand it much better when we show it to be a part of a whole interconnected chain of truths about our political economy, particularly as it relates to crises of unemployment.

For several reasons, however, student unemployment has been isolated and shouted about quite loudly by a surprising assortment of people, and as a result, government officials at

both the provincial and federal levels have agreed to do something about it. It is a noteworthy point, that at the same time these governments are not expressing any intention to 'do something' about the 6.2 per cent unemployment figure.

One of the first truths that is revealed by the way that government is going about remedying student unemployment is that, fantastic as it may seem, it still treats economic planning as anathema; and as such it can only react to crises that arise on an emergency basis, by instituting short term plans to what it hopes are isolated problems.

Thus, the Alberta Ecology Corps, a summer employment program proudly announced by our provincial government that is going to have those students whose parents are not rich enough to send them to Europe picking up garbage, painting park benches, and digging little holes. Likewise, the Opportunity for Youth Program recently announced by Secretary of State Gerard Pelletier, which has as its main aim keeping potential troublemakers off the streets and highways and out of the way of tourists.

**Analysis by Winston Gereluk**

**Photos by Barb Hilding**

The idea behind all this is that the summer of 1971 is the only time of crisis. By the summer of 1972, capitalism will reassert its essential rationality, there will be complete economic opportunity for all members of society, and private enterprise will be able to absorb all of those students who cannot afford to go to Europe for a summer holiday.

It should not surprise anyone that government should have chosen to provide so exclusively for students, that they should decide to pursue anti-unemployment policy as if the university were the only 'depressed' sector of our economy.

In accepted capitalist terminology, the priority granted to student needs can go quite nicely under the title, "Protection of Investment." The meaning of this is as easy to grasp as walking through the new cafeteria in the Central Academic Building, or deciding to enjoy a game of handball in the brand new Physical Education Building.

Students are an elite; they have more bread and more prestige invested in their well-being than any other class in our society, barring maybe the young army officers. A few million dollars by way of a summer works program is a small enough price to pay to shore up for one more year the idea that it was worth it after all.

Not only the investment, but the myth has to be protected by emergency measures. The myth of free enterprise and capitalist production is this, that jobs can be provided for everyone, particularly the highly skilled, by a system that is built to accommodate the dictates of a 'free' market. And, the myth behind our education is simply, "If you keep going to school, we'll make it worth your while by providing you with a choice of the highest paying and easiest jobs there are."

There is very little besides this promise that keeps children and young adults in schools, and the problem was that many students were beginning to have reason to question it quite seriously. A few million dollars is not too much to keep them quiet.

You don't have to be a labor economist to worry at least a little about the government's 'emergency' programs. They don't solve, just suspend the problem, and in fact contribute to many greater long-range problems.

## Short term answers: Long range problems

Barring the possibility that unemployment is wiped out by the summer of 1972, the government will merely have to do

the same thing next year and the idea if you like freshly painted

The only trouble is that those taxpayers who would be there, or from other unemployment get a little irritated at what you favorism.

The real problem is that spending its time and resources as the Ecology Corps, it is making policy decisions that would almost put the government figure in a permanent side-petuating the problem specifically the myth of equality of opportunity are jobs for students who would go to school.

It would be surprising if you are honestly upright with bright students. How many of them do the work that they could be doing?

And, the truth is on the side of such obvious make-work schemes as the Ecology Corps, it is this fact by having the kids go to Europe for a summer holiday, the money outright, you just have to walk for it.

If all of the above is true, how impotent a government is when dealing with a crisis like this.

Any serious attempts to solve the unemployment would be to dissolve, the rights which over a few people who are in charge.

## Who is unemployed?

Make-work programs like the Ecology Corps are only of the clues that might lead to the publicized unemployment emergency government measures. Poverty Programs must have a clear distinction between being employed and unemployed.

At present, students are not employed. Therefore, all of those who are 'upgraded' with government are not part of the unemployment.

Likewise, contributing to the fact that it includes not only work, welfare recipients, factory minors, self-employed people, of workers who are doing what is 'fill-in' work. It makes one wonder if it included everybody who is labor.

Besides all of the above, the population gets is adjusted to that about four per cent of any one time, due to friction. Therefore, before the unemployment is adjusted downward, figure into account. Hence, the and the reason why many of us are at closer to 25 per cent of the

## Unemployment as a

Besides being able to do what doesn't seem to mind the problem very much. At least, Trudeau

# ... Unemployment

to let the unemployment figure go as high as it wants, and Bank of Canada manager has actually called it 'healthy'.

We probably can never find out for sure whether or not the 'conspiracy theory' is true; whether government and corporate bureaucrats deliberately plan a high level of unemployment in order to fight inflation and discipline unruly labor unions.

However, we can say for sure that high levels of unemployment do have the effect of allowing companies and government to 'take a hard line' with labor. For example, it seemed to help Federal Treasury Board Chairman Drury get the postal workers back in line when they were demanding significant wage increases. And, it must be very pleasant to be an employer when there are vast armies of unemployed from which you can hire, or to which you can point whenever your own workers get impudent.

Not just unemployment, however, but any deliberate deflatory policy which our government attempts to implement is sure to fail, if only for one main reason—that ours is not in any sense of the word an independent economy even as far as capitalist economies go.

Besides simply resenting any country that reduces ours to colonial status, it is possible to point to many real (economic) disadvantages that such a state imposes on us.

## Unemployment in the hinterland

Unemployment is one of these that can be partially traced to our development of hinterland industries which have almost exclusively to do with the extraction of natural resources. A good example is the construction industry which besides being sporadic, leads nowhere as far as long-range economic plans are concerned.

Being a branch-plant country means that when the economy in the United States undergoes a crisis, the same problem will be reflected in Canada, perhaps in magnified form. When the chemical industry in the United States began to suffer a slowdown, for example, it was the Chemcell plant in Edmonton that laid off the workers. Any parent company would first lay off workers in the branch plants on the periphery before they alter things at home, all things being equal.

The fact that we are a hinterland country provides one good reason why highly trained and professional workers are amongst those looking for jobs, and why government here has to scramble desperately to do something about it.

Because that is where the parent companies are located, most of the research and development of techniques having to do with Canadian industry is done in the United States by American college graduates. The credibility gap that arises in Canada between unemployed college students and those who told them to stay in school could easily become quite fierce, if the federal and provincial governments did not intercede with their 'make-work' programs and other emergency measures which hide the true nature of our development as a branch-plant economy. (read L. Trainor, in *Close the 49th Parallel*)

## Close to the final whistle

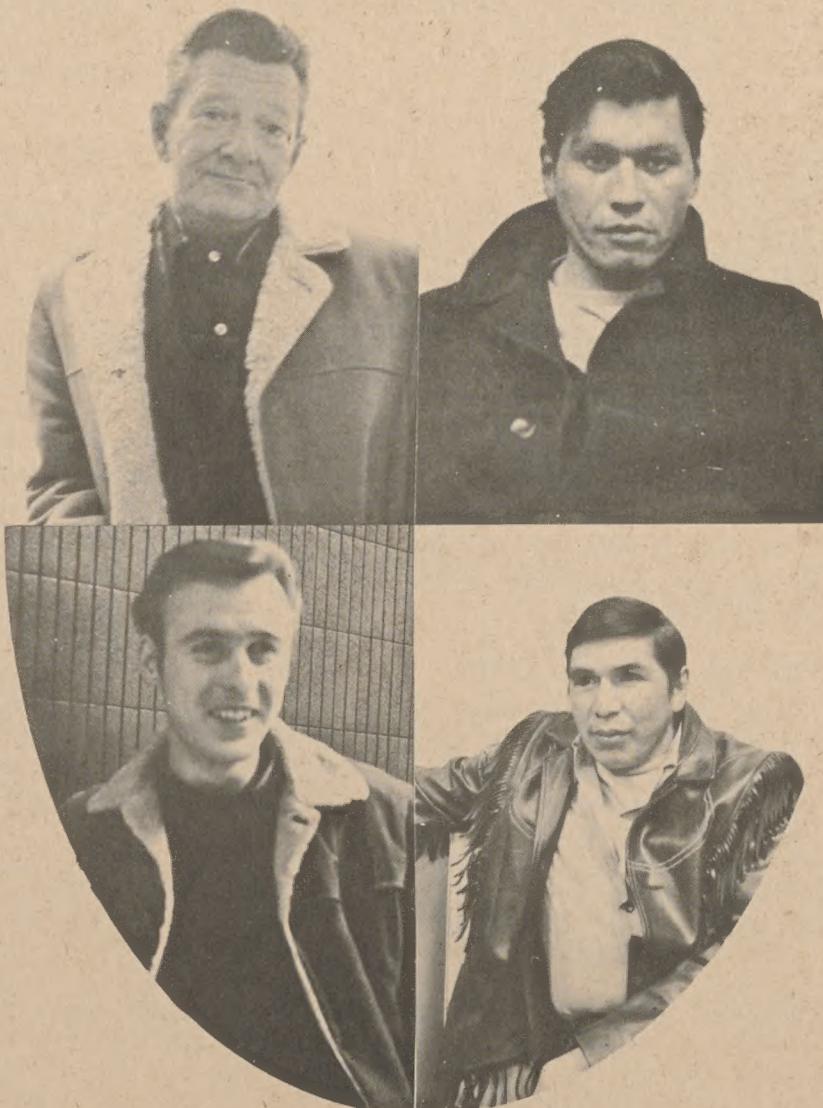
There are some fundamental questions about the nature of our economy being raised by the present unemployment crisis that have not been raised by previous ones.

Not only the extent, but the meaning of automation in industry, is being probed by many who are concerned with the possibility of unemployment being a permanent state. The Empress Alberta Gas Processing Plant, for example, illustrates beautifully that, contrary to the popular apology, our economy does not have as a primary aim the provision of jobs.

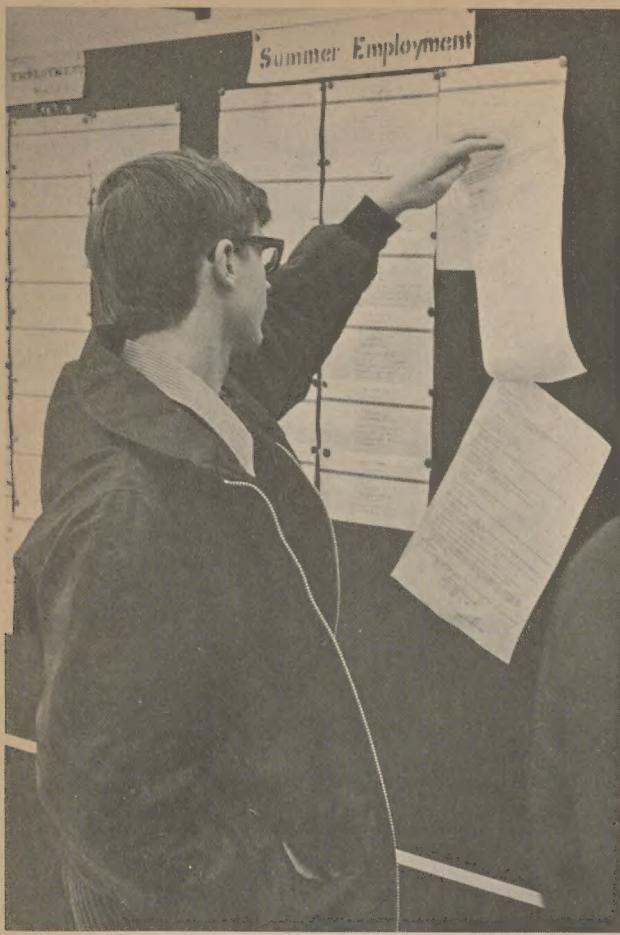
The primary objective is the generation of capital, and when this can be facilitated by excluding people from production, that is precisely what happens. This is where a plan for a guaranteed annual income makes for serious debate—it would legitimize the exclusion of people from the productive process.

Another truth that is being revealed by the present unemployment crisis is the exact nature of the relationship that exists between the major capitalist nations of the world. The increasing success on the world market by such nations as Japan and the Union of South Africa can be related at least partially to the conditions of labor, the wages, and the productivity of their working force. The relationship becomes real for the Canadian worker in an American subsidiary precisely at the point that he is laid off because his parent company can no longer compete on the world market with companies that use Bantu slave labor, which is supposed to be very 'economical'.

Generally speaking, workers in the U.S.A. and particularly Canada, are bound to enjoy fewer of the benefits of imperialism as time goes on. What is happening now is that a growing part of the world economy, particularly that section conveniently referred to as the Third World, is being denied to the designs of North American capitalists. And, as rising national consciousness closes doors around the world, Canadian workers will be among the first to suffer. They will learn what American capitalism means when they are among the first to get laid off because of the slowdown that is bound to occur when imperialism can no longer expand freely.



It is very dependent on the American manufacturing giant in the context of whose plans for development Canada is largely a hinterland for the extraction of natural resources and a ready market in which to pour manufactured goods. Our government is then in charge of a branch-plant economy, and it would follow then, that any deflatory measures can only succeed with the proper co-operation of the mother country.



—Doug Kellough photo

by Judy Samoil

*It had the flavor of a 1940's grade B movie—the telephone call out of nowhere, the immediacy, the overnight stay, the word "government"—the whole trip. It was the Secretary of State department to be exact, and they wanted to gather the editors of western campus papers in Winnipeg to explain their youth summer employment program.*

*The words 'snow job' were the first to come to mind; after all, when the federal government spends \$110 on someone for a return plane fare, \$17 per person for a room at the Hotel Fort Gary, gives said person \$10 for food and another few dollars for various taxi costs, what else is there to think?*

*All this for a one-hour press conference last Thursday with Secretary of State Gerard Pelletier. This same scene was to be repeated in the east a few days later.*

The big news centers around the fact that the government has announced it will be spending nearly \$58 million this summer to keep Canada's youth off the streets, and doing creative and meaningful work. 'Creative' and 'meaningful' appear to be catchwords for the projects, which range from youth-initiated community projects and transient youth services, to militia and international travel programs.

An estimated 990,000 students will be added to an already-strained labor force this summer, compared to about 940,000 last year. This includes university, community college, and high school students.

A prepared statement by Manpower and Immigration Minister Otto Lang emphasizes the role of the private sector and of the Canada Manpower Centers in finding students jobs. "These Centers will inform and orient students regarding jobs and meaningful activities in the private sector where the vast majority of students' jobs are found, as well as in the public sector."

Mr. Lang also claims that this private sector provided slightly over 700,000 jobs for students last summer (out of the 940,000 students).

Mr. Mike Zuk of the U of A Manpower office has estimated that about 35 per cent of those registered with his office found employment last summer, however this figure is not entirely accurate since many students failed to report when they found jobs.

1971

# A SUMMER OF DISCONTENT?

In Winnipeg, Mr. Pelletier was more optimistic, putting the student unemployment rate at 39 per cent for males and 51 per cent for females (61 and 49 per cent employment respectively.) When questioned whether the government had considered the fact that females were worse off than males both in terms of getting jobs and wages, he replied that the Opportunities for Youth program provided females with the opportunity to take the initiative. Other than that there seems to be no directly female-oriented program such as the male-oriented militia.

The new programs are largely the result of a provisional report of a Study Group on Youth, which has in the past 18 months contacted around 10,000 people. If the programs succeed, this summer will have been a kind of laboratory to test the ideas of this group, said Mr. Pelletier.

He feels that the problem of student summer unemployment is related to the place of the university in society, and that this must be reviewed. The place of the student and the value of his degree must also be examined. "There's a revolution going on," he said, adding that if there is no effort by society and students, the situation will disintegrate further.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

The most costly and innovative program is the \$15 million Opportunities for Youth, "aimed at stimulating communities across Canada to put forward and operate imaginative and useful projects. . . ." Proposals such as urban re-development and clean-up campaigns, attitude research surveys and pollution probes were cited as examples, although anything can be tried. Special consideration is to be given to projects set in high unemployment areas.

"Anything goes—it's a very permissive program," said Mr. Pelletier. Although the program hopes to cut through red tape, projects must still be approved of by provincial and local regulations. He stressed, "It is important to us that youth takes it to itself to be innovative."

Applications stating the purpose of the project, duration (they must end by September), number of people to be involved, budget, and objectives to be achieved must be submitted to the Secretary of State Department for evaluation. The projects will be selected on the basis of number of jobs created and cost, number of people who might benefit or take part, the involvement of young

people in planning, carrying out and evaluating projects, and the creation of new services, programs or activities.

It should be emphasized that a proposed project's whole budget, or possibly only parts of it may be approved, and that there are no funds allotted for capital expenditures. Both organized groups and those established expressly for a project are eligible.

## TRANSIENT YOUTH SERVICE

Arising from last summer's crisis and the possibility that this year over 400,000 students are expected to take to the road, the government has allotted over \$1 million for hostels and roadside kiosks. The program is an outgrowth of the Emergency Hostel Program of 1970, but intends the hostels to be a part of the community they are situated in, rather than being set up by outsiders. The government plans to provide financial and technical assistance to groups interested in the establishment of a hostel.

Apparently there are about 200,000 bed-nights already planned for (which works out to 2,200 beds available for a given night), compared to the estimated 400,000 young people expected to be travelling. This service will be ended in September, which could result in a situation similar to that in Vancouver last fall when the Jericho hostel shut down and many transients were left without places to stay. Mr. Pelletier assured the press that Vancouver will be watched closely this summer.

Has the planning been left too late again? "Well, we have to work against the clock and do the best," replied Mr. Pelletier. There is no consideration being given to building hostels since there are no capital funds. Armories—the savior of last summer—will still be used this summer, but they are not ideal and every effort to find someplace else will be used.

A second part of the transient youth service will be the establishment of some 50 roadside kiosks at key points along the Trans-Canada highway and other major routes. These will be operated by local groups and will probably provide information on hostels, employment possibilities, recreational facilities, and referrals to medical, legal and counselling services. The kiosks will also serve as hitchhiking depots, giving security to drivers and transients alike by recording names and destinations of travellers.

## WORKING HOLIDAYS IN EUROPE

An International Student Summer Employment Exchange program between Canada and ten European countries will provide some 3,200 students with a working holiday this summer. At the same time about 2,500 foreign students will come to Canada in exchange.

Foreign governments or agencies have developed jobs placing 1,500 in Germany, 700 in France, 500 in Belgium, 300 in the United Kingdom, 200 in the Netherlands, and the remainder in Austria, Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden. Students must have a basic knowledge of the language of the host country and must agree to work for at least two months.

Getting excited about it probably won't do any good, however, as the press release was issued March 11, and the deadline for applications (from Canada Manpower) is March 31. At least we didn't hear about it *after* it happened.

## GROUP TRAVEL

Nearly \$4 million has been provided for 35,000 students for travel in Canada and abroad. The Young Voyageurs program will send 4,200 grade 11 and 12 students on inter-provincial visits, and a second program will assist voluntary organizations and youth groups to hold seminars, study groups, and exchange projects involving

inter-provincial travel by defraying transportation costs.

Two international travel programs are also planned. One is in co-operation with the External Affairs department for projects of voluntary organizations, with one-third of the visits to Commonwealth and one-third to French-speaking countries. The other will be in conjunction with Association France-Canada and will involve 350 students from Quebec and 50 French-speaking students from other parts of Canada spending a few weeks of the summer with families in France.

## OTHERS

If nothing else works, you can always try the militia. This summer between nine- and 12,000 young people will be involved in special militia training, as well as the 7,000 soldiers regularly taking part. One course consists of three weeks of general military training followed by three weeks of a modified infantry program at local armories, concluding with one week at a camp for weapons training and simple field exercises. Another is designed for those who took part in it last year. All this is for \$7 per day, and maybe \$7.50 if you last that long.

Mr. Pelletier said he personally tried to divert resources away from the militia to more innovative and creative jobs, but that the militia had the apparatus to absorb large numbers of people in

a short time.

National Health and Welfare Minister John Munro has announced a \$1 million program of educational grants to Canadian student-athletes, designed to give them an opportunity to excel and at the same time continue their studies. There will also be a facility study to determine the quality of existing facilities, how much they are being used, by what segments of society, non-use, and leadership available.

A drug abuse program involving 700 students has been organized, involving students as interviewers in sociological survey work related to the drug addiction problem, and in education and information programs related to the non-medical use of drugs. "The main objective is to provide a system of information from youth to youth during the summer, as a basis for ongoing programs throughout the year." It will cost about \$980,000.

Last, but maybe not least, you could try to get a job with the government itself. Apparently the Public Service Commission last year placed about 3,200 students in the career-oriented program, which complemented the student's academic training. There are also non-career-oriented jobs available.

If you think any of these looked interesting, inquire at the Canada Manpower Centre—they should have information on the various employment opportunities.

## Jobs — a total effort

An estimated 12,000 students will be looking for jobs this summer.

In an attempt to create summer jobs and co-ordinate various agencies, "Operation Placement" was formed last summer. This organization, a project of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, held a meeting Tuesday at which various government officials outlined what their departments planned to do.

A general committee was formed with representatives from the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce, the Department of Youth, U of A, NAIT, College St. Jean, Alberta College, and Canada Manpower. This committee was then broken down into subcommittees.

A Student Liaison and Consultative sub-committee will facilitate the pooling and sharing of information, ideas and activities of student employment campaigns at the various educational institutions. It will also encourage students to organize publicity and independent self-employment projects.

An Employer Contact sub-committee has the task of ensuring direct contact with as many employers in the area as possible and encouraging them to hire students whenever possible. Employers will be asked to list the number and kind of jobs they may have available and to return the list to Canada Manpower.

Canada Manpower, which this year aims for a 50 per cent success rate, will have offices both at the U of A and NAIT.

The federal government will provide 3,500 guaranteed jobs in Europe this summer, but students must pay their own round-trip fare. Several thousand jobs will be available in the government and the National Defense will recruit young people for "survival training."

Twenty-five hundred jobs will be provided by the provincial government, mostly in mental hospitals. A \$2.8 million provincial grant to the Alberta Ecology Corps will provide another 1,300 students with work this summer. The provincial government will also offer a temporary employment service for students with clerical skills.

The city of Edmonton will employ 350-400 students. Of these about 165 will be working for the Parks and Recreation branch.

Don Mackenzie, students' union president, said he is very disturbed that the provincial and federal governments had waited until this date to take the necessary responsibility for providing summer employment for students.

Mackenzie said the union has received \$4,000 from the Department of Youth. With the money they will set up an employment bureau for U of A students with a full-time employment director and secretary. The director will contact employers and conduct an advertising campaign encouraging employers to hire students. The bureau will work closely with Canada Manpower and the Department of Social Development to co-ordinate hiring.



—Doug Kellough photo

## Campus Manpower success rate low

By JIM TAYLOR

It could be another tough summer for students seeking summer jobs.

"There will be an estimated 123,000 students from high schools, technical institutes, universities and junior colleges seeking work in Edmonton this summer," said Mike Zuk, officer-in-charge of the SUB Canada Manpower Office, in an interview Friday.

"It appears worse than last year for graduating students, but there has been some improvement in the last month on the job outlook. About 50 per cent of the registered graduating students have been offered jobs up to this point," he said. "Part of the problem is that due to the tight money situation, companies are making late job offers to save money."

Several things are being done to help create more jobs for students. Representatives from the students' unions of U of A, NAIT, and high schools, and representatives from Canada Man-

power centres, and the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce have met to launch Operation Placement. If all the businessmen co-operate the problem would be solved, Mr. Zuk said.

The federal government has created 70,000 new jobs for the country's 990,000 students who will be seeking jobs this summer. It may not appear to be very much, said Mr. Zuk, but this is in addition to the number of jobs they usually supply.

The provincial government has also created new jobs, 2,500, of which 1,300 will be in the Ecology Corps.

The International Student Summer Employment Exchange Program will supply additional jobs, in Europe, for 2-3,000 students.

Along with the large number seeking work, the student employment problem is further aggravated by high national unemployment, 6.2 per cent, or 628,000 unemployed in February, said Mr. Zuk. Union members will be given preference by their unions over students seeking summer jobs.

At the Manpower office in SUB 187 interviewers have spent a total of 543 days on campus, interviewing over 5,000 students, said Mr. Zuk. It is expected that about 8,000 students, or 45-50 per cent of the student population will register with Manpower by the end of the year. We receive confirmation of employment for about 35-40 per cent of those who register with us, he said, but these statistics are inaccurate because many students find work without reporting it to Manpower.

Students can improve their chances for finding jobs by registering with Manpower now, said Mr. Zuk. Also, some students price themselves out of jobs. If a student asks for \$3.50 per hour on his application, and a job is offered which pays less than that, say \$2.50 per hour, the student won't get called.

Students would be better off not asking for too much money on their applications, but rather wait until they are called to accept or reject an offer.

# THE WOBBLIES

By MIKE DANIELS

"Fellow workers, we are here today to confederate the workers . . . into a working class movement that shall have for its purpose the emancipation of the working class from the slave bondage of capitalism." It was with these thundering words the IWW, Industrial Workers of the World, came into being in the summer of 1905.

The formation of the IWW was a reaction to the increasing in-effectiveness of the traditional craft union organizations to cope with the changing face of American industry.

American industry had matured in the early part of the century from small shops employing a small number of workers of the same trade, to the higher production - profit - oriented corporate-industrial structures employing large number of workers of diverse occupations.

#### Craft union powerless

In this situation a strike by workers in one trade could be easily crushed by the management. The craft union form of organization seemed to be a powerless relic in comparison to industrial trusts and corporations.

The answer of the militant trade unionists who founded the IWW was to organize workers in the same way that production was organized. That is, on industrial lines.

The central theme of the IWW was "An Injury to One is an Injury to All." They were sure that by striking against entire industries and with a powerful central organization to back them up, they would be able to rout the capitalist machine that oppressed them.

The men of the IWW and their actions show that these were

not idle words but directives for action.

The IWW's first major action was the McKees Rocks dispute in Pennsylvania. McKees Rocks was a company town run by the Pressed Steel Car Company and inhabited by immigrant workers who were not organized to resist the powerful employer. When the company announced a new pay schedule based on piecework the workers became confused and angry. They elected a committee of 40 to ask the management to explain the new wage rates. The 40 were promptly fired. McKees

Rocks quickly became an armed camp with "special deputies" (fired thugs) and state police on one side and 6,000 determined strikers on the other.

The IWW organizers quickly appeared on the scene, conducted public meetings and generally helped promote worker solidarity which remained solid through the strike, even though 76 workers were seriously injured by state troops and union thugs. After over two months of strike action the company finally capitulated and granted the workers' demands. The Wobblies, as the

papers had named them, had won their first big victory.

From 1909-12 the IWW concentrated on the West, using the new tactics of the "free speech fight." The American West was primarily worked by unskilled itinerant lumberjacks, construction workers, agricultural workers and miners who had little stake in capitalism or the established system, and were willing to fight that system with the first weapon that came to hand. Constantly moving and working, these voteless and economically weak workers saw the direction action

advocated by the Wobblies as their only weapon with which to fight the system that oppressed them.

#### Wobblies arise

One of the most notable free speech fights took place at Fresno in 1910 when a contractor, finding it hard to attract labor for low wages, told the Fresno police chief that the labor shortage was deliberately caused by the Wobblies. The police began breaking up the street corner meetings and jailing the speakers. A telegraph went out to IWW headquarters in Chicago for help.

From all over the country Wobblies came to answer the call of their comrades. They stole rides on the trains and marched from the California border to Fresno to avoid the rail police. Before long the Fresno jails were crammed with militant Wobblies singing their famous songs of the class struggle and lecturing the prison guards.

The prison officials, fearing a mutiny called out the fire department who turned high-pressure hoses on the rebellious prisoners. Shielding themselves with mattresses the men refused to be cowed, and a truce was reached only after the water had risen to knee level over the entire cell block. The city officials, faced on one hand with rebellious prisoners in its jails whose guards were nearing mutiny and news of more Wobblies on the way, were forced to back down and release the prisoners.

#### Everett massacre

The IWW free speech fight reached its bloody climax with the Everett massacre of 1916. After a six-month struggle to establish the Wobblies' right of street corner gathering in this Washington lumbering town, 300 IWW members set sail from Seattle in steamboats bound for Everett.

As the lead boat tried to land it was met with gunfire from police and vigilantes who were lined up along the shore to prevent their landing. In the ensuing exchange five workers and two vigilantes were killed, and 50 wounded on both sides. They steamed back to Seattle to warn the second boat and returned to the Seattle harbor.

The police were waiting for them as they landed and 74 IWW men were arrested and charged with the murder of the two vigilantes. After a two-month hearing the defense proved that it was impossible to tell who started shooting first and that the vigilantes may have been shot by their own side. The Wobblies were released and the Everett massacre turned into a propaganda victory for the IWW.

#### IWW broken

The IWW was increasingly becoming a thorn in the side of American business and so the mass arrest and conviction of over 100 IWW leaders that took place in 1917 was no real surprise. These arrests left the Wobblies without their central leadership and best agitators.

The IWW was effectively broken and today retains only a paper existence in its small Chicago office.



**MOUNTED POLICE ATTACK** Rudolph Dressel, an IWW organizer, during the Homestead, Pennsylvania, steel strike of 1919.

## Unemployment Insurance increases scope

By ELLEN NYGAARD

Chances are that sometime in your life, probably in the near future, you will be unemployed.

If you are a university student, interested only in a summer job, you are in serious trouble. But at least the friendly Shylocks at the Students' Assistance Board will come to your rescue in the fall.

However there are still the summer months.

In some circumstances, you may be able to collect welfare. For some, there is another alternative: unemployment insurance.

Although most university students will not qualify for these benefits, even if they have been paying into the fund every summer for the last five years, they should know about unemployment insurance for two reasons: first, there is a possibility that they may qualify if they have been working part-time during the year; and second, the new legislation on unemployment insurance coming into effect July 1, 1971 may make them eligible in the future.

Generally, the present Unemployment Insurance Commission legislation is designed to

offer rather minimal assistance to those wage-earners who, because of the nature of their jobs, are likely to lose their employment at any time through no fault of their own. This includes construction, oilfield, and factory workers, and other members of the laboring class engaged in basic production.

Self-employed persons, casual laborers, nurses, government employees in clerical positions, teachers, policemen, and all occupations where earnings exceed \$7,800 per year, unless the rate is by the hour, day, or at a piece rate, are not covered by the Act.

But suppose you are a student who has been working about 20 hours per week for the last year. Depending on the nature of your job, and depending upon whether you have been contributing to the benefit plan, you may be eligible for up to \$46 per week if you are single, and up to \$58 per week with dependents.

However, unemployment insurance regulations are of greatest interest to students because the new regulations will, after July 1, 1971, provide eligibility for an additional 1,200,000 wage-earners, including teach-

ers, federal, provincial and municipal employees, members of the armed forces, hospital employees, policemen, nurses, and many other occupations where earnings are less than \$15,000 per year.

The newly included groups reflect a change in the philosophy of the plan. The UIC's information booklet says "the risk of loss of income through loss of employment, sickness or pregnancy, can affect almost any member of the labor force. . . . There is no clear and fair way of separating people as to degrees of risk. The new plan is based on the fact that it should apply to neither the good risks nor the bad risks, but to all risks."

The original Act of 1940, for example, did not provide coverage for women who were forced to leave work because of pregnancy, persons who lost their income due to sickness, or those who are forced to retire.

The new legislation will provide for all of these groups. The major advance in coverage will be for pregnant women, who will be able to collect insurance nine weeks before and six weeks after confinement.

Employers will still be contributing an amount roughly equal to that of the employees, but employers who lay off employees at a higher than average rate will be required to contribute more.

The government now adds an amount equal to one-fifth of the combined contributions of the other two groups. This revenue will no longer be necessary under the new plan. Payments to the UIC will be income tax-deductible for both employers and employees.

The major weakness of the new legislation is not, as some have suggested, that an undue burden is being placed on middle-income groups, but that under the contribution system, employers, and particularly large companies, are contributing only slightly more than the total contributions of their workers.

And since extra governmental aid, other than defraying of administrative costs, will not be part of the total UIC budget, this leaves the brunt of the financing to those who, as the UIC admits, "have the risk of temporary unemployment" through no fault of their own.